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Liaisons



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To Friends and Colleagues

BROOKHAVEN
NATIONAL LABORATORY

managed for the U.S. Department of Energy by Brookhaven Science Associates,
a company founded by Stony Brook University and Battelle

Recruitment for the Department of Safeguards

Donna Occhiogrosso

The following positions are being
advertised by the IAEA
Department of Safeguards:

Section/Unit Head

Section Head (P-5)
Section for SG Training
Division of Technical Support
Vacancy Notice No. 2005/057
Deadline: September 26, 2005
Published Salary: \$101,000

Cost-Free Expert Positions:

- **04/TIE-003** Unattended and Integrated Monitoring Systems (P5)
- **02/IIS-009** Imagery Analyst (P4)
- **04/PST-001** Quality Management Specialist (P4)
- **04/TTR-04** Technical Documentation for AP Training (P3)

The duration of a Cost-Free Expert (CFE) appointment is at the very least, a two-year assignment. CFE personnel are employed by the US government to work at the IAEA. For further information and details regarding these postings, visit the ISPO website at www.bnl.gov/ispo.

New ISPO Employee – Raymond Diaz

Raymond Diaz

Ray Diaz is the newest member of the International Safeguards Project Office. Prior to being hired by ISPO, Ray worked in the Nuclear Energy and Infrastructure Systems Division (NEISD), starting in November 2004 as an engineer supporting the Proactive Materials Degradation Assessment (PDMA) project headed by Dr. Manomohan Subudhi. The PDMA involved reviewing as-built Pressurized Water and Boiling Water commercial reactor power plant drawings and technical documentation (FSAR). The purpose of the PDMA is to identify nuclear power plant components that are susceptible to material degradation, allowing prediction, monitoring, repairing, and minimizing plant component failures in the future. Pertinent plant data was input to an Excel spreadsheet and plant piping drawings were used to prepare a Power Point presentation. Dr. Subudhi presented this information to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on a bi-monthly schedule.

Prior to NEISD, Ray worked as a Liaison Engineer in the Collider Accelerator Department (CAD) for approximately four years. Ray provided engineering, estimating, construction supervision, and operational support of beam lines,

experiments, and facilities in the CAD radiological particle accelerator complex from their inception to their completion and removal.

Before working at CAD, Ray worked at the High Flux Beam Reactor (HFBR) for approximately eleven years, until permanent closure. Upon being hired at the HFBR, Ray entered training and was certified as a Reactor Shift Supervisor. He was then assigned to the Engineering department as the Special Projects Coordinator. Ray was responsible for Reactor Division project initiation, tracking, and closeout. He functioned as a liaison between the engineering and operations groups.

Prior to working at the HFBR, Ray worked as a project engineer at Peabody Engineering, Stamford, Connecticut, for three years. As project engineer, he was responsible for project design, drafting, budgeting and customer relations. He designed numerous commercial power plant burner assemblies, valve trains, and combustion related equipment.

Ray Diaz received his M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Manhattan College in the Bronx, New York, in 1995, and his B.S. in Marine Engineering Systems from the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York, in 1984. Upon graduation from Kings Point, he received a Merchant Vessel Coast Guard license as "Third Assistant Engineer, Motor and Steam Vessels, Unlimited H.P."

New Interns for the U.S. Support to the IAEA Internship Program

**Catherine Osiecki and
Melvyn Morris
(BNL Office of Educational Programs)**

On Monday, May 16, 2005, the International Safeguards Project Office (ISPO) with the Office of Educational Programs (OEP) at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) held an orientation for fourteen new students who will be participating in the U.S. Support Program (USSP) to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Internship Program in Vienna, Austria. They were joined this year by a participant in the Junior Professional Officer Program, Nina

Wilson, and an International Nuclear Safety Advisory Group (INSAG) Intern, Jennifer Koop.

Joseph Indusi (Chairman of the Nonproliferation and National Security Department at BNL) and Susan Pepper (Head of ISPO) provided the students with the history and an overview of the IAEA. Jacob Blackford (a 2004 intern and now an employee of ISPO) gave a guide to living in Vienna. Marie Hobson (BNL) instructed the students in important German phrases and pronunciations during an introductory German lesson. The students then enjoyed a luncheon that was attended by the Office of Educational Programs, the staff of ISPO, and former intern Courtney Patterson. The full day orientation gave the students a chance to meet and get to know each other before they depart for Austria. Four of the students will begin their internships in July, with the remainder to start in September.

This is the fourth group of students who will be spending one year at the Vienna International Center with the USSP to IAEA Fellowship Program. The Program which began in 2002 pairs students from colleges around the country with mentors from the IAEA in fields such as open source information collection, computer science, and technical writing. The participants in the 2005-2006 Program with their assignments are:

Sarmadi Almecci, The George Washington University, mentored by M. Aparo, SGTS/TIE
Jeffrey Easley, Norfolk State University, mentored by G. Cherif, SGIT/ISH
Mike Fayer, SUNY at New Paltz, mentored by B. Sirajoy, SGIT/ISH
James Garner, Washington University in St. Louis, mentored by S. Johnson, SGOA/JNFL
Lauren Ginsberg, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, mentored by M. Aparo, SGTS/TIE
Holli Hoerschelman, Montana Tech/Univ. of Montana, mentored by I. Cherradi, SGOC/OCF
Maria Ivkovic, Georgetown University, mentored by J. Lepingwell, SGIT/IIS
David Kamran, University of Georgia, mentored by J. Lepingwell, SGIT/IIS
Mark Laughter, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, mentored by J. Lepingwell, SGIT/IIS
Patrick Lynch, Mercyhurst College, mentored by F. Claude, SGIT/SIAU
Victoria Pratt, University of Texas at Austin, mentored by R. Carchon, SGTS/TNS

Lawrence Taylor, Georgia Southern University,
mentored by P. Titov, SGIT/ISH
William Wanderer, University of Chicago,
mentored by J. Lepingwell, SGIT/IIS
Santosh Xavier, SUNY Institute of
Technology/Utica, mentored by
L. Martin Hernandez, SGCP/PSA.

Staff Changes at the IAEA

Michael Farnitano

This summer, the IAEA Safeguards Department announced staff changes to many positions with whom our support program colleagues interface. The changes include:

Pierre Goldschmidt completed six years of service to the IAEA as Deputy Director General (DDG) of the Safeguards Department. Pierre's successor is Ollie Heinonen, who moved to the Deputy Director post from his previous assignment as Director of Operations B.

Therese Renis will head the Procedures and Support Section of Operations B, while also serving as acting Director of Operations B. Previously, Therese functioned as a technical advisor to DDG Goldschmidt.

Philip Durst moved from Operations A and will assist DDG Heinonen as a technical advisor.

Jacque Baute (who headed the Iraq Nuclear Verification Office) has been appointed to the Director of the Division of Safeguards Information Technology. Former Director Dirk Schriefer is retiring.

Alicia Reynaud has been appointed to the head of the Safeguards Section for Programme and Resources. Alicia succeeds Bettina Bartsiotas, who moved to a position in the IAEA's Department of Management, Division of Budget and Finance.

Manfred Zendel is working as head of the Safeguards Section for NDA systems and Seals. Manfred transferred from a position as an inspector in Operations A.

Jaime Vidaurre-Henry (who headed the Safeguards Training Section) will be heading the Section for Procedures and Support in Operations C. Additional inspector-qualified

staff have moved into other Safeguards Divisions as part of a planned staff rotation that took place this year.

ISPO wishes much success to those appointed to new positions and hopes that our colleagues departing the Agency enjoy a well-earned retirement or, at least, a long enjoyable vacation.

ATM Withdrawal Problem Update

Management Notice from Vienna Tri-Missions

As part of our ongoing efforts to keep American employees and family members informed about continuing problems with ATM machines in Austria, the following update is provided. The ongoing problem with ATM's arises when someone puts their bankcard into an ATM, requests a certain amount of cash, and then receives one of the following messages:

"Communication lost with your bank."
"Transaction Canceled." Or
"Unable to process transaction."

Therefore, the bankcard holder doesn't receive the money requested. Later, the withdrawer finds out that their account in the U.S. has been debited for the amount requested at the ATM.

The ATM transaction should work as follows: when you request money, a message is sent to your credit union or bank in the U.S. The amount you requested is automatically debited to your account (Direct Debit). Then, the bank or credit union in the U.S. sends a message back to the ATM you are using allowing the machine to give you the requested amount. The problem is that there is a breakdown sometimes in communication in the second part of the transaction, i.e., the permission from your bank to the ATM to dispense the money, which then leads to your receiving one of the messages above.

This problem seems to occur because of timing delays in the relaying of messages between the ATM in Europe and the American bank or credit union. This timing problem doesn't seem to exist when making transactions between an

ATM in the U.S. to a U.S. bank and an ATM in Europe to a European bank.

One company, Europay, manages all the ATM machines in Vienna. Europay claims that the problem is with the U.S. banks because of the Direct Debit process used by those banks. Europay has stated that there is nothing they can do. Europay recommends that if you encounter this problem, contact your bank or credit union immediately and explain the problem. Some are aware of this problem and are very cooperative. The State Department Federal Credit Union (SDFCU) will credit your account immediately. SDFCU will then send an inquiry to Europay to verify that the transaction did not in fact take place. However, this process can take up to forty-five days to complete. Should SDFCU determine that the transaction was in fact good, it will then debit your account again for the amount in question.

Employees/Tri-Mission offices and/or family members should share this information with official and personal visitors who may wish to utilize ATM machines in Austria, especially in Vienna.

New ISPO Liaison Officer

Barbara Hoffheins

Barbara Hoffheins and her husband George Copeland arrived in Vienna on July 18 for the start of her new position as Liaison Officer for the USSP. She had worked with Mike Farnitano in Vienna during the last two weeks of June to become more familiar with the position's responsibilities.

The U.S. embassy in Austria and the U.S. Mission to International organizations (UNVIE) are accustomed to processing newcomers to their posts. Barbara and George had their embassy badges and IAEA grounds passes within a relatively short period. The arrival of household goods and getting settled in an apartment will take a bit longer.

Barbara is coming to her new assignment at a time when there are a number of new staff appointments. UNVIE Ambassador Greg

Schulte has been in his post since July 11 and has already been involved in significant IAEA issues, notably Iran. Matt Boland (the new public affairs officer) was quoted in the International Herald Tribune early in his second week at UNVIE. The IAEA has staff in new positions (see "Staff Changes"). Along with these and other staff changes, the organizational structure and processes are sure to change also.

As part of the introductions at the IAEA, Barbara has set up meetings with the directors of Technical Support, Information Technology, and Concepts and Planning, to discuss their views on what will be important to them in the next year and the ways that the USSP might assist. Some examples include Nikolai Khlebnikov urging the U.S. to support his search to identify new or novel technologies for the detection of undeclared facilities and activities, good candidates for a cost-free expert in the area of enrichment technology for the Division of Concepts and Planning and for the Division of Information Technology, the successful management of the new IAEA Safeguards Information System, and the incorporation of more tools to accelerate and broaden the acquisition and analysis of open source information.

Barbara has been locating new interns, who arrived at the end of June and early July. They seem to be settling in and enjoying themselves. She has visited with most of the interns who are finishing up their year. She has not found the work places of all of the CFEs yet, but she's making progress. Barbara figured out how to take the bus to the Seibersdorf Analytical Laboratory and met with Safeguards Analytical Laboratory (SAL) staff to discuss task status and new needs. SAL is considering the procurement of a high-resolution secondary ionization mass spectrometer and the expansion of the SAL laboratory because it has outgrown its present space. Another reason to go to SAL was to see USSP consultant Jim Navratil from Clemson University, who is developing laboratory procedures to detect lower concentrations of plutonium, uranium, and americium in environmental samples.

Meanwhile, at UNVIE, the new ambassador is charging ahead with his agenda, a long list, which includes goals allied with those of the USSP: increasing the number of U.S. citizens at

the IAEA in all departments and strengthening the Agency's effectiveness. Ambassador Schulte has convened a meeting at the Mission to understand the status of current recruiting efforts and the IAEA's recruiting and selection policies. He is very interested in knowing more about the operation of IAEA Department of Safeguards. Barbara has escorted him to a briefing by the Division of Technical Support, where he learned about the Agency's equipment development, procurement, and maintenance strategies. He saw Agency equipment for the first time and was pleased to be allowed to have a metal seal like the ones removed recently at the Iranian facility in Isfahan. Both the Agency and Ambassador Schulte have expressed enthusiasm for more visits to safeguards divisions and sections to increase his understanding and, beyond that, his effectiveness in his own endeavors.

With all of this happening in her first month, at a time when things are supposed to be slow because of summer vacations, Barbara expects a lot more interesting and challenging days ahead. She and George are looking forward to exploring more of Vienna and other locations in Europe and beyond.

To Friends and Colleagues

Michael Farnitano, former Liaison Officer to U.S. Support Program to IAEA Safeguards

As you probably know, I have taken a leave of absence from my position with Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) and the International Safeguards Project Office (ISPO) to pursue an opportunity to serve the International Atomic Energy Agency as a Safeguards Inspector. I experienced a peculiar feeling when I shared my farewells in July with the staff of the U.S. Mission, U.S. Support Program staff, and others at BNL with whom I worked with for several years. While I was in part saying goodbye, most of us realized it was simply sharing the understanding that I'd not be working with my colleagues on a daily basis but would see them every now and then, since most of my co-workers either reside in or get to travel to Vienna periodically. I do hope to see many of you when you are able to stop in Vienna, so feel free to look me up. I'll be in the IAEA phone book.

I feel privileged to start my training in just a few weeks, along with fifteen other new inspectors. At the time of this writing, I've met most of my new classmates, who will participate in the new inspector training curriculum, and find them all to have interesting backgrounds resulting in quite a diverse group of new IAEA inspectors. For some time now, I've felt compelled to experience and to contribute to the work of the IAEA Safeguards Department, in part because I have been exposed to and been on the margins of many technical support activities sponsored through the U.S. Support Program. This exposure to the work of inspectors has intrigued me and I am hoping my past several years assisting with safeguards support will help accelerate my own progress through the rather steep learning curve to which the new inspectors are subjected. I've come to appreciate that there is much to learn, that the job won't always be easy, but I am up for this personal challenge.

This is an interesting time to be joining the IAEA. Reading the papers or tuning in to CNN highlights the significance of the IAEA's role in today's global nuclear non-proliferation system. Along with the weight I place on the importance of the job, I'm allured by the evolution of inspector responsibilities over the past several years that are adapting to changing safeguards approaches and measures. I expect the job will continue to progress as inspectors assigned to specific geographical responsibilities perform a greater number of verifications activities under the Additional Protocol and Integrated Safeguards. The Agency will experience higher than normal attrition due to retirements of its early generation of safeguards experts, and there has been numerous staff management changes this year. These changes present new challenges to the Secretariat and I am eager to participate in the organization that is keen to tackle them.

I do hope to see many of you again as I am sure our path will cross again in the future. It'll be interesting to chat again in about a year or so to gauge my impressions of the experience and also to consider from a different point of view the effectiveness of the technical support that has been provided by the U.S. over the years.

Auf Wiedersehen and let's stay in touch.